UNCLASSIFIED

E855B

October 1, 1986

N.W. Ohio Wallenberg Committee
3772 Lakepoint Drive
Northwood, Ohio 43619
419-698-1521

(X) RELEASE
( ) DENIAL
( ) DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions
PA Exemptions

Senator Howard Metzenbaum
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

October 5th marks 5 years since honorary U.S. citizenship was conveyed upon Raoul Wallenberg of Sweden, the "Lost Hero".

Notwithstanding that highest of honors, Wallenberg is generally only a dimly remembered figure of "long ago" history. Even though only 41 years have elapsed since the bestiality of the Third Reich, Wallenberg's luminescence which shone so brightly amidst that inhumanity has been consigned to the dusty shelves of history.

And although he still might be rotting in some Soviet prison at age 74, his fate is only of sometime interest. He didn't forget the suffering humanity of 1944, but he is forgotten himself, buried alive. How tragic, how ironic!!

Why is this so? Does remembering his high morality diminish people in their own minds? A question to ponder.

Raoul Wallenberg, however, didn't ponder when approached by our government in 1944. He eagerly accepted a U.S. backed mission to rescue Jews in Budapest. He was much an American since his study days at University of Michigan, 1931-35.

In Hungary, 1944-45, Wallenberg thwarted and outwitted Adolph Eichmann and the Nazi killing machine. The result was that the young Swede armed only with Swedish diplomatic powers saved some 100,000 Budapest Jews from the "Final Solution".

Wallenberg saved the helpless, but couldn't save himself. He fell prey to liberating Soviets on January 17, 1945 when he was taken into "protective custody" from which he has never been released. Through the years, conflicting tales have have been told of his life or death.

When Wallenberg was conveyed honorary U.S. citizenship in 1981, it was so our government could actively seek his fate. What is being done today? When will we know?

Let us pause October 5th in remembrance of Raoul Wallenberg, "Lost Hero". Let us remember these words spoken January 17, 1985:

> "Wallenberg affirmed the humanity of Budapest Jews. And through the reality of his solidarity with them, even in the face of a mighty tyranny's determination to dehumanize them, he illustrated thereby our duty as well as our human potential."

Yours truly,

Robert Karp

Robert Karp
Spokesman, Ad Hoc
N.W. Ohio Wallenberg Committee

appreciate your help. Thank you.
RK

UNCLASSIFIED

10/13/92